NATIONAL KITCHENS

The Common Cause

OF HUMANITY.

The Organ of the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies.

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[The National Union does not hold itself responsible for opinions expressed in signed articles.]

Notes and News.

Canada and Women's Suffrage.

It is good news indeed that the Canadian Government is proposing to introduce a wide measure of Women's Suffrage next Session. Great Britain has followed the example of New Zealand and Australia, and now the remaining Dominions seem prepared to follow the example of the Motherland. Only South Africa lags behind. Will not the lovers of freedom there take note?

A Grave Question Still Unanswered.

In our issue of February 8th we called attention to the very grave evidence published in *The Shield* about events at Cayeux-sur-Mer, where an hotel in a prominent position in the town was turned into a house of ill fame ostensibly for the use of British soldiers in a convalescent camp close to the town. The citizens of Cayeux protested against the scandal. The Mayor, in reply to their petition, stated that the Municipality was not responsible, and referred the petitioners to the British military authorities. A question was asked in the House of Commons by Commander Wedgwood on December 15th, but no answer was given. *The Shield* (the Organ of the Association for Moral and Social Hygiene) then published the full particulars. On February 6th the Bishop of London raised the question in the Upper House of Convocation, and, after some comments by the Archbishop of Canterbury, the House unanimously resolved "that the attention of the military authorities be called to the statement published by the Association for Moral and Social Hygiene with regard to scandals connected with licensed houses in France, especially at Cayeux and Havre, and that if such scandals are proved to exist they be asked to take drastic steps to prevent their occurrence." On February 18th in the House of Commons, Mr. King asked Mr. Macpherson (Parliamentary Under Secretary to the War Office) whether he had enquired into the question of Cayeux, and whether he had received since August, 1916, protests and memoranda concerning alleged licensed and medically regulated houses at Rouen, Havre, Marseilles and other places in France. The reply to this was "*The matter is one entirely for the French civil authorities and we cannot therefore take any action.*" There the matter stands at present; but it cannot be allowed to continue to stand there, and we do not believe that either the Bishops or the House of Commons, or the Press, or the Public will allow it to rest.

Milk for the Babies.

We are glad to learn that the Government are at last taking steps to secure a supply of milk for young children and expectant mothers. In some districts a scheme is already in preparation providing that milk shall be supplied in priority to holders of priority tickets issued by the local Food Control Committee, such tickets being issued only to children up to five years of age, and to people recommended by a medical practitioner as needing a special quantity of milk. Now the Food Controller and the Local Government Board have made Orders empowering local authorities to supply milk to children, and milk and food to expectant and nursing mothers, at cost price in ordinary cases, and free, or at less than cost price, in cases in which the women supplied cannot afford to pay the cost price.

The administration of the Order will be in the hands of local authorities, and certificates authorising applicants to obtain food and milk will be granted by medical officers of health, medical officers of maternity and child welfare centres working in co-operation with the local authority, and by persons specifically empowered by either of these medical officers or by the local authority itself.

It will rest with the officers empowered by the local authority, and acting under their directions, to decide the cases in which the woman is to be supplied free or at less than cost price, the general principle being laid down that food or milk shall be supplied in cases in which the competent officer certifies that such provision is necessary, and at less than cost price only where the woman supplied cannot afford to pay the full price.

Expenses incurred under this Order will be defrayed as to one-half by the local rates and as to one-half by grant from the Local Government Board. The Order is to be known as the Milk (Mothers and Children) Order, 1918.

The Railway Women Demand Equal Treatment.

At a meeting of women railway-workers, convened by the National Union of Railwaymen, in London on February 16th, a resolution was passed demanding an increase of the women's war bonus from 8s. 6d. to 21s., thus bringing it up to the level of that granted to the men. It was pointed out at the meeting that it was in the interests of all that an equal standard should be maintained for men and women. The N.U.R. has shown itself the most progressive of trade unions in its treatment of women, and we are glad that the women themselves are making a firm demand for equal treatment.

Important to Women Voters.

Even in the final stages of the Representation of the People Act there were some modifications of the qualifications for women. After the article by Miss Chrystal Macmillan in our issue of February 1st was written, it was decided that a woman should not be qualified for the Parliamentary Franchise by occupancy of premises other than a dwelling-house unless the annual value of the said premises was £5 or more. This is to apply whether a woman qualifies on her own or her husband's qualification. Occupancy of a dwelling-house will, however, enable a woman to qualify, even if its rental value is below £5.

The date for registration is not yet fixed, and will be announced later. We hope to publish from time to time notes on the qualifications of women voters, and on registration which will, we believe, be of use to our readers.

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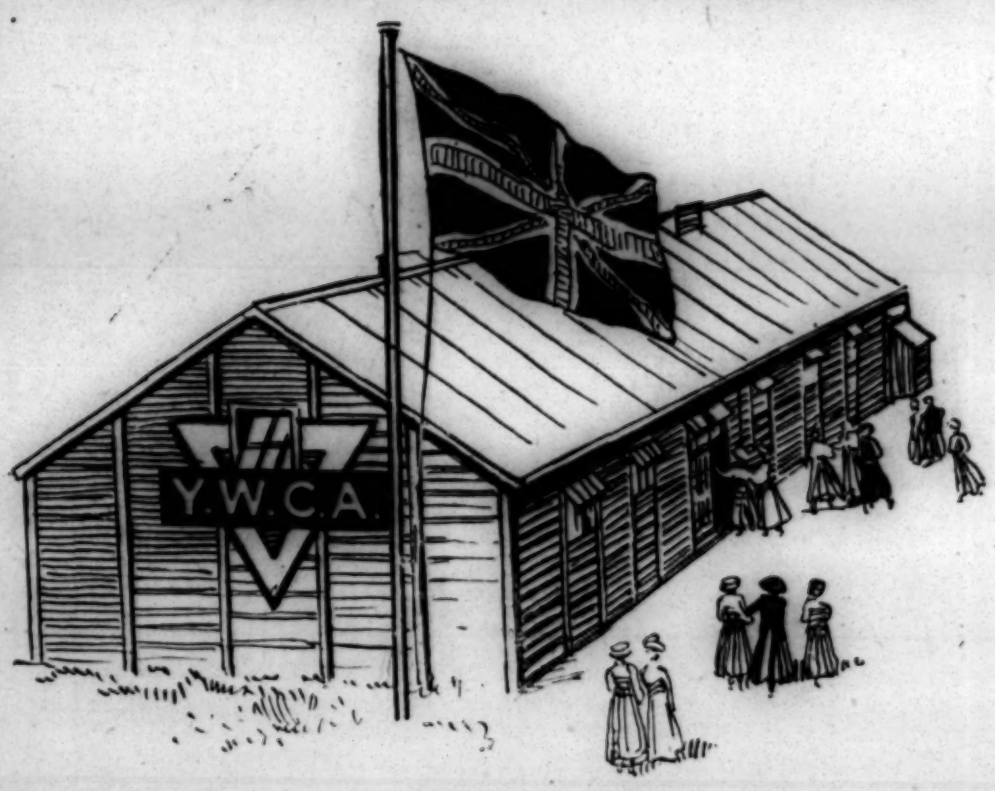

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Permanent National Kitchens.

By Dr. C. W. Saleeby.

For more than two years past Germany has been using public kitchens as an emergency war measure. She could not have lasted without them.* The French experience has not been very successful. Our own Ministry of Food started an experimental kitchen early last year, which is doing valuable work at this moment. From the beginning of his reign Lord Rhondda has approved of these kitchens, and has done his best to encourage them; but from the first he made it clear, to me for one, that he regarded them as more than an emergency war measure, and was aiming at nothing less than their permanent establishment. This is a vastly better and bigger idea, which in no way interferes with the immediate usefulness of these kitchens, and with nothing less than which must we be satisfied. For observe that the purposes which these kitchens effect are scarcely less valuable in peace than in war. They economise food, fuel, labour, room, and transport; they are the true solution, as I have long insisted, of the smoke problem; they provide hot meals on her return home for the woman who works outside as well as within it, and hot meals for the children without prejudice to the mother's work. Consider what proportion of the average working woman's energy is spent upon the purchase, carriage, and cooking of food, and we soon discover that hosts of women would be released from something scarcely less than slavery if they could be relieved from the greater part of these duties. The national kitchen will do so.

Unfortunately, these purposes do not appeal very much to ordinary men, if, indeed, the present representatives of male municipal wisdom are to be so accounted. Their response to Lord Rhondda's invitation has hitherto been entirely inadequate. When they were summoned to a Conference at Grosvenor House a few months ago, they gave an exhibition which I shall never forget. That kind of thing is how to lose the war and the peace. Now at last, since the national safety requires that we shall have ten or twenty thousand national kitchens instead of two hundred, Lord Rhondda has appointed a new Director of National Kitchens in the person of Alderman C. F. Spencer of Halifax, to whom I wish all success. But he must be helped by those whom he is out to help, and without whom he cannot succeed. Will not the women's organisations do their part now? Surely it must be for them partly to provide or train the many cooks who will be wanted—the amateur is as futile here as usual—to assist in the problem of distribution, and to teach their fellow-women to avail themselves of what these kitchens have to offer.

We have nothing here to do with soup kitchens, nor with tenth-rate trumpery places in back streets. I would it were possible, on the contrary, for Mr. Spencer to avail himself of a suggestion which I made at the Albert Hall as far back as last May—that not a few of the palatial edifices at the corners of our streets, now quite otherwise engaged, but most eligibly situated for this purpose, should be turned to the national service forthwith. That, indeed, has been done with the kitchen at Holloway just opened by Lady Rhondda. But now, why above all do I wish these kitchens to be permanent?

National Kitchens and the Birth-Rate.

The war has awakened us to the vital importance of producing a strong and healthy race if the Empire is to be developed and consolidated in the years to come. But when considering the practical steps which should be taken to increase, or even to maintain, the birth-rate in Great Britain, and to lower the present alarming rate of infant mortality, people rarely go to the root of the problem.

The primary obstacle to healthy family life is the totally inadequate housing accommodation prevailing in so many quarters, and among so many sections of the community. The reason for this inadequacy is, of course, economic. No matter who is behind the new building, this factor determines its type. Guinness and Peabody buildings, municipal enterprise, private enterprise, the efforts of the State at Rosyth or elsewhere—one and all concern themselves with provision for adults, simply because provision for children does not pay. In this sense, be it observed, no service to the future pays: no sacrifice of the present, no maternal pang, nothing that maintains our race can be said to pay.

But when the nation as a whole takes up the question of housing, we might expect a farther-sighted view to prevail. We do spend money on the future, as, for instance, in education, because we admit that on the whole to provide for its continuance is the duty of any nation; therefore, we may perhaps now begin to consider the propriety of building houses where there is room for children, and which women may thus turn into homes for the young future.

In all the many discussions of this subject, hitherto, the perpetuation of all the old features is taken for granted. Things are to be better, airier, cleaner, less unpleasant to look at, but nothing resembling a change of type is contemplated. Women are to be called in at the last when all essentials have been decided in order to state their views on cupboards and larders. In short, the women's problem—for housing is that if it is anything, or what does the word domestic mean?—is to be solved by men.

The national kitchen provides for the working classes just what the idling class provide for themselves, if and when they have money enough. The typical, modern, expensive, completely equipped block of "mansions" in London to-day has a common kitchen and restaurant, whereas the individual suites of flats are without a kitchen altogether. Hence, while men in local power delay, women of the middle classes in Wimbledon and elsewhere are clubbing together to provide themselves with a similar blessing on their own account.

Let me make a new point further. The combination of smoke and fog in London, for instance, which I prefer to call "smog," and which blinds and blackens and chokes and kills us, is dependent on the smoke produced by myriads of kitchen fires. Abolish these, "smog" vanishes, public health is greatly served, dirt largely disappears, and woman in her home finds cleaning and cooking largely disposed of by the one act.

Women, therefore, would pronounce for the next move not in units, but in millions. Before we decide upon the type of the 300,000 houses, we propose to build as soon as possible, let us call in women, in the first place, and ask them not "Do you want cupboards?" which, of course, they do, but "Do you want kitchens?" which, for the most part, directly they know what we mean, of course they do not.

In short, I suggest that we now have an unprecedented opportunity for making a great forward move in our national housing. Whilst others must think of the present—economy of food and women's labour, and so forth—I am thinking of the future. To include the national kitchen as an integral part of our new housing will be to serve the birth-rate and the lives of those born in two distinct and valuable ways.

First, not even a woman can eat her cake and have it. The more of her physiological income she spends on external work the less she has for internal work. This is a necessary truth which we fail to perceive, because a woman's latent resources are so immense, and she draws on them when she must. But she does not abrogate the law of the conservation of energy, nor one of its necessary consequences, which Spencer called the principle of "Individuation *versus* Genesis," and which Geddes and Thomson have recognised in the preponderance of anabolism over katabolism in the female—that is, the natural or maternal female—as compared with the male. Every device that lessens the external burden gives a better chance to the supreme burdens of gestation and lactation.

Second, if, by practically abolishing the private kitchen, we can save one room per house, we practically resolve my old antithesis between "housing and homing." We save at least one room per home for fine children instead of poor cooking, and we largely abolish that factor of the falling birth-rate which consists in the absence of house-room for the nation's children.

The Committee of Architects (all male) which has been appointed to solve what is so very much more than an architectural or male problem, does not appear to have thought fit to hear evidence on my proposal, authorised though it be by three years' work upon the Birth-rate Commission; but perhaps women may come into their own just in time to make possible the very substantial piece of social reconstruction or evolution which, I submit, is embodied therein.

One, and only one, exception must be noted to my assertion that new housing schemes ignore the needs of the future. That exception is the Duchy of Cornwall Estate in South London. There the personal interest of their Majesties has shown itself in the provision of what are really homes, with room for chil-

* See Mr. John Hilton's admirable article in the "Quarterly Review" for January.

dren, even growing children of opposite sexes, under decent conditions. Amongst the new ideas there exemplified is one, the plan of which I had the honour of showing at the Royal Institution, in 1914, in a course of lectures on the progress of eugenics. It provides movable fireproof partitions between adjacent houses, so that the number of rooms in each can be modified as the respective families increase or diminish in size. Perhaps His Majesty the King may now include model national kitchens in his fine scheme of domestic reconstruction, thus making more room for childhood and illustrating his own splendid saying, "The foundations of national glory are laid in the homes of the people."

The Organisation of Social Workers.

WHAT HAS BEEN DONE, AND WHAT THERE REMAINS TO DO.

Miss Helen Ward, in her article "The Uplifters," in THE COMMON CAUSE of December 21, 1917, has stated broadly the need for improvement in the conditions of work—and especially in the salaries—of social workers. The object of the present article is to state briefly the steps that have already been taken towards this end, and to outline the aims of a Committee which is considering a scheme of organisation among social workers—a scheme which will, it is hoped, ultimately ensure a higher standard of training, on the one hand, and better salaries and conditions of work on the other.

The first definite proposal of any kind for organising social workers emanated from the Victoria Settlement, Liverpool, in December, 1915. It was proposed to form an Association, composed of voluntary and paid workers of either sex, in order to improve the status of social workers, to promote a register, and to help workers to obtain work.

The interest attaching to this scheme is, however, mainly historical, as it was never put into operation, and the next step—made without any knowledge of the Liverpool proposals—was an attempt to interest the general public in the question. An article appeared in *The Times* of June 13th, 1917, under the title "Women in Social Work: The Case for Organisation," in which the subject was approached from the point of view of the paid social worker. The writer pointed out the evil results, both to the workers and to the work, of the prevalence of small salaries and unlimited hours, and urged that social workers should combine, in order to press for certain improvements. Among these, it was suggested that a woman working for a philanthropic society should not receive as an initial salary less than £120 a year in London, or £100 in the Provinces, and that the maximum weekly number of hours should not exceed forty.

Correspondence was invited from those having any definite scheme of organisation to propose, and a good many letters were received. Only two, however, contained any definite suggestions. Miss Charlesworth, Secretary of the Association of Women Clerks and Secretaries, proposed that membership of her Association would meet the case; and Miss Pearson, Warden of the Victoria Settlement, Liverpool, described the scheme mentioned above. Other correspondents, however, having expressed a wish to discuss the matter, half-a-dozen people met on June 27th, 1917, and agreed that a Conference of social workers should be held, in order that as large a number as possible might have an opportunity of expressing their views as to any future scheme.

It was clear that such a Conference, if it was to have any weight, could not be called by one individual, and both the National Federation of Women Workers, and the National Union of Women Workers, were approached. Finally, the N.U.W.W. agreed to hold a Conference at the London School of Economics on November 9th, 1917, to discuss "Special Aspects of Demobilisation affecting Social Workers . . . from the point of view both of the professional and of the voluntary worker, and the status of the trained worker, and the standard of remuneration. . . ." Miss Christie, of the London School of Economics, Miss Helen Ward, of Women's Service, and Miss Lawrance, of the Charity Organisation Society, were announced to speak from the voluntary standpoint, and Miss Susan Lawrence, of the London County Council, and Miss Hadow, of the Ministry of Munitions, from the professional.

In the meantime, a second article, dealing with the case for the organisation of social workers from the point of view of the employer, had been accepted by *The Times*, and appeared on the morning of the Conference. This article urged the need for establishing a register of trained and experienced social workers, pointing out that, in the absence of such a register, no employer of social workers had a "guaranteed" supply from which to draw. The writer concluded by saying that the subject would be discussed at the Conference being held that day.

At the Conference, however, Mrs. Ogilvie Gordon, President of the N.U.W.W., asked those present to speak as workers only, any discussion from the employers' point of view being thus ruled out of order. It was also noticed by those present at the Conference that the voluntary element in the discussion predominated markedly over the professional, as, owing to the absence of Miss Hadow at the last moment, there were three speakers on the voluntary side, and only one on the professional. The result was that, apart from some very practical suggestions made by Miss Helen Ward, the point most emphasised at the Conference was the need of definite training for all those undertaking social work, rather than the need for improvement in the status and conditions of the professional—or paid—worker.

At the conclusion of the discussion, a Provisional Committee, composed of both professional and voluntary workers, was elected, "to draw up a scheme of organisation among social workers." Among those elected were Miss Morton, Chief Organiser of Children's School Care Committee work to the London County Council; Miss Milnes, Lecturer at the London School of Economics; Miss Tucker, of Women's Service; Miss C. Gregory, Poor Law Guardian (Holborn); Miss K. Lawrance, Charity Organisation Society; and Miss Micholls, of the Social Institutes Union for Women and Girls.

The election of this Committee was an important step forward towards the organisation of social workers. It has met frequently and regularly ever since. At the first meeting it was decided to survey the whole field of social service, in order to decide which groups of workers were in greatest need of organisation, and to which workers the Provisional Committee might be most helpful. The Committee decided, as a result of this survey, that doctors, teachers, and nurses, though all social workers in the widest sense, were outside the scope of the Provisional Committee. With regard to nurses in particular, it was decided that, in the narrower sense, a nurse does not become a social worker until she ceases to nurse, and enters the ranks of social workers as a Health Visitor, Infant Welfare Worker, School Nurse, or Factory Nurse, after which she is usually eligible to become a member or associate of the Women Sanitary Inspectors' and Health Visitors' Association.

The Provisional Committee next began to draw up a definite scheme of organisation among social workers. After the most careful consideration of various proposals, it was decided to adopt a scheme providing for the formation of sectional associations for each group of professional social workers—*e.g.*, Hospital Almoners, Infant Welfare Workers, Industrial Welfare Workers, &c. The members of these associations would be professional workers only, but voluntary workers would be encouraged to form their own associations. Each professional association would draw up conditions of employment best suited to the particular kind of work undertaken by its members, quite independently of the other sectional associations. This plan, rather than one for the formation of one association, or union, for all social workers, was adopted, because the majority of the committee felt that the kinds of work undertaken by social workers generally were so varied as to make any uniformity of conditions impracticable. The need for some central advisory body would, however, be met under this scheme by the formation of an Advisory Council composed of delegates elected by the associations, both professional and voluntary. The functions of the Advisory Council would be "to work for constant improvement in the status of social workers, and in the conditions of work of professional social workers." It would strive to promote these aims by defining the qualifications, including training desirable in social workers, by compiling a register of qualified workers, by agreeing as to the minimum salary desirable for professional workers, and by bringing its recommendations before the committees of all societies and other agencies engaged in social work. The Advisory Council thus formed would, it is hoped, become a useful centre of propaganda and information, while retaining a purely advisory character, both in relation to the societies and other bodies employing social workers, and to the workers themselves.

This, then, is the scheme proposed by the Provisional Committee. Whether it ever becomes a living thing depends on its reception by the whole body of social workers. That some, both among employers and employed, have felt the need for improvement, we are sure. That many more would

demand it, if the facts of the case were brought home to them, we are equally sure. The most urgent need is, then, that the facts may be brought home, and that social workers generally shall feel that they have duties and responsibilities, not only to those whom they are seeking to "uplift," but to each other. The Provisional Committee is anxious to get into touch, either through the written or the spoken word, with as many workers and with as many committees as possible. Some of the members of the Provisional Committee are willing to explain the objects aimed at by addressing groups, however small, of workers and committee members, whenever and wherever they may be invited to do so.

It is also hoped to publish a leaflet setting forth the scheme more fully, and dealing with the whole question of the need for improvement in the training, status, salary, and conditions of social workers. Then, when the whole matter has been discussed by some groups at least of social workers, it will be for them to decide whether the scheme proposed, or some other, is most suited to their needs. The most pressing question is that of propaganda: but propaganda means money. The work of a committee, however simply it is carried on, entails some expense, and a pamphlet, if it is worth having, is worth paying for. Later, the launching of the scheme will cost more money; but it is not a question of that yet. A small fund, for propaganda purposes only, is urgently needed. Will any readers who feel, with Miss Ward, that "the Uplifters should be themselves uplifted," and who feel that the Provisional Committee is helping towards this end, send a contribution, from 1s. upwards, towards this fund? Also, if any group of workers or others would care to have an informal "talk" about the whole matter, the honorary secretary of the committee will try to arrange one.

All contributions, and all communications, should be addressed to Miss Nora Milnes, Hon. Sec. Provisional Committee, London School of Economics, Clare Market, Strand, W.C. 2.

A. SAYLE.

Women as Barristers.

On January 17th, 1917, *The Times*, writing in reference to Mr. Holford Knight's motion requesting the General Council of the Bar to consider and report on the desirability of providing for the admission of duly qualified women to the profession, used the following words:—

"There are special reasons just now why the law, which is the oldest and closest and most distinguished of Trade Unions, should set this particular example to the rest. . . . One of the supreme problems of the future is concerned with the power of women to maintain their advantage after the war. The mere prospect has already done much to modify public opinion on Woman Suffrage, and the attitude of Parliament, which is all that Woman Suffrage can affect, is of very much less importance in this connection than the attitude of the Trade Unions. If, as we hold, our strength as a nation depends largely on a proper distribution of the energies of all . . . the final emancipation of men from women's work, and the retention of women wherever they can fairly compete with men—then it is not too soon to give practical expression to the principle wherever it is found."

At whatever date the war is fated to end, we are now nearer that end by the year that has elapsed since these words were written; and during that year has been set up one of those great historic landmarks whose magnitude is the more fully apprehended as time recedes from them. Since the discussion a year ago by the Bar Annual Meeting on the advisability of considering the admission of women to the legal profession, the womanhood of the country, if not yet as fully enfranchised as the manhood, has been emancipated from the sex disability which debarred women from any voice in the choice of the Legislature. They may now help to choose those who make the law. It is the logical complement of this that they should not, on grounds of sex, be excluded from the administration of the law. For if there is some inherent unfitness in women which ought to debar them from applying law, then far less ought they to be entrusted as a sex with any share in the greater responsibility of framing the law. If a woman cannot drive an engine, far less can she invent and fashion its machinery.

The public mind to-day is much more ready to receive the woman lawyer than was public opinion prepared for the woman doctor in the Victorian Era. But the medical woman has fought her fight and come to stay. The feeling of the nation would not tolerate for an instant any attempt to set the clock back by the expulsion of women from the medical profession should any group of men or women be audacious enough to propose it: and probably the community would take its stand upon the proven utility of such women's services to the nation. The women doctors would doubtless make efficient nurses, housewives, or clerks, but there would be a general feeling that specialised talent was not being used in its natural sphere of utility, and that insomuch the nation would be the poorer.

That is precisely the case for the legal woman. Either one of the two following propositions must be true at the present moment: certain women are endowed by Nature with qualities which would make them useful to the community as lawyers; or, alternatively, no woman in this country has any such capacity. If the first statement be true, then whatever forces would exclude such women from the sphere of the law are dark forces that tend towards the lessening of national power by preventing suitable women from exercising the functions fittest for them. If the second statement be true, then the British woman is inferior to the French or American woman, who can, and does, become a lawyer; and the inferiority is of so extraordinary a nature that a sea-voyage to any of our Dominions where women may qualify and practise is sufficient remedy!

Some of those who are ready to admit that women might make good lawyers shift the ground of objection by abusing the profession itself. Women are good enough for the Law, one is told, but is the Law good enough for women? This is evidential of the relation of quasi-hostility now unfortunately so prevalent between the Law and the general public. It is also partly a family relative to the old argument about the vote dragging woman from her pedestal. [I don't know what the pedestal was.] For good or for evil, women are now in for the rough-and-tumble of life, and have left the home, bringing not peace, but a sword—the sword of new ideals which will make cleavages along new lines in old traditions. I am not suggesting that an incursion of women is the precise method of rehabilitating the law with the general public. But in so far as the admission of fit women into the profession showed some evidence of a more liberal and less exclusive mentality, of more response to the spirit of the age and less to outworn tradition, in that degree the Law would go some way towards putting itself right with the general public.

The Law has been in some ways the noblest of British professions. A stately procession of eminent lawyers has held and passed on the torch of liberty from generation to generation—Eliot, Pym, Hampden, Coke, and the great Cromwell himself were all men of law. The profession that has produced such men, and that has so nobly aided to vindicate liberty in these islands, is one it would be an honour to enter. That a type of sordid lawyer-politicians has been an unfortunate feature of it in recent years, one cannot deny, but that does not affect the nobility of the law in itself. The higher good of the State is best served if every member of the community puts forth his or her utmost power. For the days of reconstruction after the war we shall need the maximum of effort to ensure a just social order, and that maximum effort must be applied so as to produce the maximum result. If any group of men wish to exclude women from their calling, the onus of proof of unfitness and danger to the public lies with those men, and if their arguments are untrue, they will advance them at their peril. Much water has flowed by the Temple since the days when Miss Pankhurst addressed the Bar on the admission of women: and I am permitted to state as a fact not without significance that one of the barristers [Mr. Wells Thatcher] who then publicly opposed Miss Pankhurst is one of the sponsors of the writer in her application to be admitted as a Law Student "for the purpose of being called to the Bar."

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Women in the Engineering Trades.

II.—The Pay.

If the question of the work done by women in the Engineering Trades is wrapped in confusion and complexity, the question of the pay that they receive and the rates and methods by which they actually are, and legally should be, paid, is infinitely more obscure.

The story of the Agreements, Acts, and Government Orders by which the wages of women have been regulated since August, 1914, is in itself full of contradiction, and to give any picture of how they have been misinterpreted, misapplied, evaded, disregarded, and twisted, would fill several volumes. The Memorandum which is the basis of this article tells the story of these Agreements with little comment, and gives a number of typical instances of their unjust and incomplete application, and emerges with the conclusion that women are paid from a third to half less than men for the same work, where they are doing work previously called men's work, and are paid something between £1 and 24s. a week where they are doing work previously called women's work.

The question of the wages of women has a direct bearing upon the speed with which dilution is accomplished. Obviously, a Union which is being induced to permit dilution, either of unskilled men or of women, does so more readily if the customary rates of pay are not adversely affected. Equally, it is clear that the employer accepting dilution puts up with the inconvenience caused by it more readily if the customary rates are lowered by the dilution. Between these two contending forces the Government has steered a zig-zag course, inclining, as is the nature of Governments, towards the side of the employer, and neglecting flagrantly and remorselessly the interests of the unrepresented party to the bargain.

The first Agreement, called the Crayford Agreement, was entered into in November, 1914, between the Engineering Employers' Federation and the Amalgamated Society of Engineers. Its substance was that the work of skilled men should not be given to women. This was quickly corrected by the Shells and Fuses Agreement, by which women could be introduced, for the period of the war only, into operations performed by skilled men, provided they were paid the usual rates of the district for such operations. Under this Agreement not a single woman was introduced on to the operations performed by skilled men; many thousands were introduced on to those operations very slightly altered (in order that the Wage Clause should not apply to them), and they were paid the usual rates for women in the district, which worked out to considerably less than half the rates paid to men. The breakdown of the Shells and Fuses Agreement led to the famous Treasury Agreement, March, 1915, entered into by the Government and thirty-three men's Engineering Unions, at which no woman at all was represented. By this Agreement the restoration of all relaxed Trade Union rules and customs was solemnly promised, and it was further agreed that the admission of semi-skilled or female labour to any work "shall not affect adversely the rates customarily paid for the job." Mr. Lloyd George immediately after interpreted this phrase to mean that women should be paid the same piece-work rates as men, but not on the same time-work basis. This interpretation destroyed all the value of the safeguard as to wages; very few women were put on to piece-work, the time rates remained about half those of the men, and the undercutting and rate-destroying process went gaily forward. These attempts to protect the women's rate, futile as they were, applied only to the women on skilled operations. The women "on women's work" and on unskilled operations were all this time receiving the customary rates—2½d. to 4d. an hour—and taking wages that amounted to 15s. or £1 a week for excessive hours.

The Manchester and Salford District Women's Interests Committee now demanded a minimum wage of £1 for a week of forty-eight hours, and this became the basis for the famous circular L 2, which was published by the Ministry of Munitions in February, 1916. This Order, which was not compulsory on any but Government factories, and not enforced there, set up a rate of £1 for women working "for a week of normal hours," and repeated the principle that women employed on the work of fully-skilled tradesmen should receive the fully-skilled tradesmen's rates, leaving untouched, as before, practically the whole mass of women workers who were doing part only of the work of a fully-skilled tradesman. Even its minimum rate of £1 was immediately circumvented by an alteration in the hours of work, so that women not working "a week of normal hours" need not be paid this minimum rate. The Munition Amending Act of 1916, however, at last created an improvement in the situation. It gave power to the Minister of Munitions to fix wages, and to set up Special Appeal Tribunals, under which the principles of L 2 began to be enforced.

In February, 1917, the Order known as Order 49 secured the fully-skilled tradesman's rate to women employed on part of a fully-skilled tradesman's job, subject to a 10 per cent. deduction for expenses of extra supervision; it laid down, moreover, a definition of a "week of normal hours" as one of forty-eight hours. Under this Order the wages, both of the women on skilled work and the women on unskilled work, began to creep slowly upwards, and the minimum began to be really enforced. But still the subtle devices by which women's wages have been kept down remained in constant use, and new and glaring injustices were perpetrated. The war-wages and war-bonus granted to men have not been granted to women—4s. where men get 11s., nothing where men get 12½ per cent., so the injustice runs, while amid the confusion of payment by piece, by time, by premium bonus, and by complicated calculation, the employer still finds a thousand ways of cheating his women of their proper pay.

Throughout the whole struggle, as the Memorandum clearly shows, the National Federation of Women Workers has persistently tried to pull up the wages from the bottom, gaining, in the teeth of incredible difficulty, rise after rise and compromise after compromise. At the top, the women on skilled work have gained here and there a small yet important victory, and the men's Unions, torn between their desire to keep women out altogether and to protect their own rates, have now helped and now hindered their unfortunate competitors.

"To interfere rashly in wages," says the Minister of Munitions, "is like sticking a knife into the hands of a clock." But while he makes this timid, if true, statement, prices rise, and rise, and rise, and the vicious circles of inflated prices and uneven wages and excessive hours set the works of the clock going in such a crazy fashion that a knife here and there would do little to damage the mechanism.

Ray Strachey.

The Road to Fairyland.

Georgian Poetry, 1916-1917. (Published by the Poetry Bookshop. 4s.)

True Thomas, so the story tells, was shown by the Elfin Queen three paths: the first a broad one, leading across the "lily leven," the second beset with thorns and briars, and the third a "bonny road that winds about the ferny brae." This last was the path to fairyland, and Thomas, having kissed the Elfin Queen, had no choice but to follow it with her, and was not seen on earth again "till seven years were gone and past."

At the present moment, some of us, if we had the chance, might wish to follow Thomas and his queen along the green and ferny path, and forget the world for seven years. But if the ballad tells the truth, the path did not go on as it began: Thomas and the Queen came presently to a land where "they saw neither sun nor moon, but heard the roaring of the sea":—

> "It was mirk, mirk night, there was nae starlight,
> They waded through red blude to the knee;
> For a' the blude that's shed on earth
> Rins through the springs o' that countrie."

Afterwards, Thomas was provided with an apple which gave him a tongue which never could lie, and though he protested against the extreme inconvenience of the gift, which would make it impossible for him to buy or sell, or "speak to prince or peer," or "ask of grace from fayre ladye," he was forced to eat it. Thomas the Rhymer thus became "True Thomas," and if he ever came back from fairyland, and ever told anything of what he saw there, all that he said was certainly true.

The new book of Georgian poetry (appearing this time in a green cover) offers a path to fairyland. Those who follow our modern rhymers along it will only be disappointed if they have hoped to escape from the darkness and the "roaring of the sea," and have forgotten that "a' the blude that's shed on earth rins through the springs o' that countrie."

There is no escape from the war in this book: that would be impossible when so many of our poets are fighting, so many slain: the pain and horror of it echoes through these pages, and finds expression in such poems as "Fulfilment," "In the Pink," "It's a Queer Time," and "The Death Bed." But

the fear that must have crossed many of our minds that the war would destroy not only the bodies of our poets, but the poetic faculty of the generation is, we think, proved groundless. And there is something surprising in the kind of poetry which has been produced in these terrible years. One might expect that the love of country and love of justice which have so visibly inspired the younger generation should find expression in heroic verse as well as in heroic death; but we do not find much heroic verse in this book. What we do find is an intense human feeling, and interwoven with this a love of beautiful, far-off magical things, which reminds one of Coleridge. Pity is certainly the predominant passion in these poems—pity not for human beings only, but for all helpless, tortured creatures. Siegfried Sassoon's "Death Bed" treats of human death and of the agony of war; but John Freeman's "Pigeons" reminds us of daily suffering, which is not human only, and which happens even when there is no war. This latter poem is almost unbearable in its poignancy, and the poet seems to have found it so himself. He ends it with the cry:—

"Jesus forgive us all our happiness
As thou dost blot out all our miseries."

Ralph Hodgson expresses the same feeling when he writes:—

"'Twould ring the bells of Heaven,
The wildest peal for years,
If parson lost his senses,
And people came to theirs,
And he and they together
Knelt down with angry prayers,
For tamed and shabby tigers,
And dancing dogs and bears,
And wretched, blind pit ponies,
And little hunted hares."

The generation of poets that has matured in anguish has certainly not become insensitive to human or animal pain.

Nor have they lost that extra sense by which the rhymer finds the Elfin Queen. The magic that is in the leaves of the forest, and the ripples of the stream, in colours and beams of light, and words and notes of music, can be apprehended at moments by everyone; but it is for the poets to capture it, and it sometimes seems that the power to do it is the one true test of the poet.

"Beyond the blue, the purple seas,
Beyond the thin horizon's line,
Beyond Antilla, Hebrides,
Jamaica, Cuba, Caribees,
There lies the land of Yucatan.

There lies the land of Yucatan,
The low coast breaking into foam,
The dim hills where my thoughts shall roam,
The forests of my boyhood's home,
The splendid dream of Yucatan!"

So writes W. J. Turner, whose poems are full of magic. Nor have the older poets, still young enough to be included in this collection, forgotten their peculiar spells. Who would not recognise this of Mr. Masefield's?

"Roses are beauty, but I never see
Those blood drops from the burning heart of June
Glowing like thought upon the living tree
Without a pity that they die so soon,
Die into petals, like those roses old,
Those women, who were summer in men's hearts
Before the smile upon the Sphinx was cold,
Or sand had hid the Syrian and his arts."

Or who but Mr. de la Mare could have written this:—

"'Who knocks?' 'I who was beautiful
Beyond all dreams to restore,
I from the roots of the dark thorn am hither,
And knock on the door.'

"'Who speaks?' 'I—once was my speech
Sweet as the birds on the air,
When echo lurks by the waters to heed,
'Tis I speak thee fair.'"

Magic has not gone from the world, and we cannot close this book without a passionate thankfulness to those who are keeping it there, and a passionate regret for the singers we have lost:—

"Yet, though the slain are homeless as the breeze,
Vocal are they, like storm-bewildered seas.
Their faces are the fair, unshrouded night,
And planets are their eyes, their ageless dreams.
Tenderly stooping earthward from their height,
They wander in the dusk with chanting streams;
And they are dawn-lit trees, with arms up-flung,
To hail the burning heavens they left unsung."

Perhaps, then, they are not altogether lost?

I. B. O'M.

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Kitchens.

Woman's Place is the Home. But what is the home?

Once upon a time home was the place where the family needs were supplied. Clothes were made and washed there; food was grown, killed, cured, and prepared there; doctoring and education were carried on there; and a woman's home offered her a full and busy life. What is a home now? The industries have gone out of it; the clothes, the washing, the teaching, and the mechanics are all prepared and procured away from home, and very little but the food is left. The home has gradually dwindled into the kitchen, and now the kitchen is leaving too. What, then, is to happen to the woman?

It is obvious what has already happened. Many women have followed their work out of their homes, have entered industry, medicine, nursing, or the teaching profession, and others have stayed faithfully by what remained, devoting themselves laboriously (and foolishly) to their kitchens, wearing themselves out in useless and frivolous lives, cleaning grates and cooking meals, or directing others to clean grates and cook meals by obsolete and inadequate methods, and toiling their days away to produce an unending series of tepid joints and badly boiled potatoes, while backs ached with the labour of it and homes resounded with the complaints of husbands and of children.

No one can seriously maintain that the domestic arrangements of the average home in England were either comfortable or economical before the war. The vast majority of homes were hopelessly overcrowded; in all the large towns hundreds and thousands of families lived, and still live, under conditions in which privacy, decency, cleanliness, and even cooking itself are practically impossible, while among the richer people monotony, triviality, and convention ruled both drawing-room and kitchen. And now a change is before us, for the Communal Kitchen is at hand, and the last of the home industries is about to be reformed. What, then, is to happen to the women?

It is clear that they must follow their kitchens. It is clear that this coming change, this latest development of economy, is one that most vitally concerns women, and here, if anywhere on earth is a clear case for a woman's department. Municipal or Communal Kitchens must be planned, managed, and administered by women, in the light of the experiences of women, and with a clear understanding of the problems that their existence will solve. Nothing could be more obvious, and nothing less controversial, than this fact. And yet nothing could be further from what is actually taking place.

The facts are these. Nearly a year ago Lord Devonport authorised the experiment of one communal kitchen in the Westminster Bridge Road, which has supplied cheap and well-cooked food ever since. Many months later a decision was reached—without consultation with any women, even those who are officials of the Ministry of Food—to put the provision of communal kitchens into the hands of the municipalities. These arbiters of our domestic future, when they met to consider the policy of the kitchens, were almost unanimously opposed to them. They favoured establishing them, if at all, upon temporary lines, upon the ground, among others, that "it would make women idle." Not a woman had a voice in that conference. Not a man knew what he was talking about. And so is our future decided.

The next step was the appointment of the staff to carry out the new schemes. Not a woman has yet been appointed: one has been lent from another department, and it is rumoured that another may actually be paid a salary; but the policy, the administration, and the control still remain in the hands of men. An Alderman from Halifax has been put in supreme command: his first thought has been advertisement by means

of lighted tramcars, gramophones, and baskets of flowers. And meantime our children are hungry and our women wait in queues.

The matter is a serious one, and the need for action urgent. We *must* do our own work, and do it properly. We must have women in charge of the new kitchens who will think of providing food and not advertisements, and who will plan for the future and for the common good. Woman's place is indeed the kitchen, and we must see to it that she is not shut out of it by a swarm of highly-paid officials and an army of contractors. Lord Rhondda seems to have forgotten that woman's place is the home. Every woman in the country should hasten to remind him.

R. S.

The Future of the National Union.

Throughout the past eight months, ever since it has seemed fairly clear that women would speedily be enfranchised, the thoughts of hundreds of Women Suffragists have turned to the future, and have been focussed on one question—more important than the future of any existing organisation—the question how, when this first instalment of the franchise has been won, to bring the influence of the women's point of view to bear on local and national politics.

Suffragists have asked for the vote as an instrument, and now that it has been granted to 6,000,000 women, they want to use it not only for obtaining full recognition of the citizenship of women, but also by means of it to make the considered point of view of women citizens tell. In various quarters all over the Union, Suffragists have arrived at the conclusion that the N.U.W.S.S. should do its part in working for both these ends.

Miss Rathbone's motto for the National Union in her article in THE COMMON CAUSE of last week, "I am a woman and nothing that concerns the status of women is indifferent to me," is *one* of the mottoes of those who take this point of view. They wish to see women endowed with opportunities "equivalent" to those of men ("equivalent" seems to express Miss Rathbone's point of view rather than "equal"). But, first, in view of the fact that the phrase "equality of opportunity" appears ambiguous, and is liable to be interpreted as identity, although it is not meant as such, they would prefer to say frankly that the N.U.W.S.S. should stand for that "freedom of opportunity" without which women can never make their full contribution to the affairs of the nation.

Secondly, they desire not to exclude from the work of the future National Union any subject on which women have a special point of view, or of which women as women realise the importance more than men. All matters concerned with life have a special significance for women, so another motto might be added to the first: "I am a woman, and nothing which concerns the life of my children or of other women's children is indifferent to me."

These supremely important matters will be dealt with by Women Citizens' Associatjons, and other women's organisations where such exist, but many of the National Union Societies wish *as societies* to take their share in this work, and to assist the new women voters to realise their responsibilities. They think that the women who have worked for the vote in order to use it as an instrument should endeavour to secure the effective use of the instrument, and should make for definite constructive legislation on concrete questions—that the Women Suffragists gathered together in the National Union, with others who will join them now the vote is won, have a point of view to express, and should express it, and should take action together to see that the expression is effective. The women in many of the Societies of the N.U.W.S.S. desire to expedite legislation on Housing Reform, on Infant Welfare, and on such matters as measures for preventing criminal assaults on children, &c. They wish neither to be obliged to join in a separate organisation to work for each separate reform, nor to form autonomous Women Citizens' Associations outside their own Society. Their idea is that the Societies of the N.U.W.S.S. should develop into Societies of Citizens, co-operating with other women's organisations where such exist, to secure Freedom of Opportunity for women, and meanwhile to help them to use those opportunities they already have to bring their point of view into prominence.

A constitution with so wide a scope would supply the local Societies as well as Headquarters with a programme of such vital interest that every individual member should be impelled to take her part. It is clear that such societies, working for women's full citizenship, would not include quite as many women as autonomous Women Citizens' Associations, but they would include many who would not be inspired to vigorous action by work directed only towards obtaining equality or even freedom of opportunity. It has already been proved in many localities that they do appeal to many women who have not in the past worked for or even desired the vote. Public meetings would be held for the benefit of the "more backward" women, and the ranks of the Societies would be gradually recruited by those who from time to time felt themselves prepared to join. It is more natural for bodies of opinion to grow thus gradually, and it may well be wiser to expand slowly rather than to start as huge, unwieldy masses with no definite points of coherence.

Indeed, the main difficulty involved in the working of autonomous Women Citizens' Associations would be their isolated position, with no headquarters, and little influence outside their own area. If the N.U.W.S.S. becomes a Union aiming at definite legislation on all matters of special significance to women, then its headquarters will be a means of linking up all groups of women citizens who desire to take combined action. As parts of a National Organisation they would then have the great advantage of a National Council and Headquarters, of coherence and driving force. Those who are in favour of this wide scope for the future National Union are fully aware that it will do its best work if it "does not spread itself out too thin"; year by year, at its Annual and Provincial Councils, it must consider and determine what reforms are of paramount importance at the moment, and it must lay its main emphasis on these definite reforms; but there will be the saving grace that, with its objects broadly framed, it will not find itself at some crucial moment faced with a limited choice.

M. G. THODAY.

Correspondence.

[*Letters for publication should be received not later than Monday.*]

"THE FUTURE OF THE NATIONAL UNION."

MADAM,—We owe Miss Rathbone our gratitude for her attempt to help us in our wrestlings with the Agenda of the Annual Council Meeting. It is useful to have "sketched out in broad lines the ideas which have been in the minds of some of the Executive Committee who have been planning out the future of the National Union." Yet some of us still find it difficult to grasp the precise reasons for the choice advised on the alternative courses which the Agenda presents.

These alternatives concern two principal issues:

(1) Is the formula "equality of liberties, status and opportunities between men and women" likely to provide a broad enough platform for our Union in the new situation created by the Franchise Act?

(2) Should our Societies undertake themselves, or form other "autonomous" Associations to undertake the practical administration and educational work of the proposed "Women Citizens' movement"?

Miss Rathbone is deeply interested in the Women Citizens' movement and wants the Union to forward it. She admits—she proclaims—that the equality formula does not cover the work of the Women Citizens' movement. Does she therefore advocate the enlarging of the formula so that it shall cover the work to be done? On the contrary, she asks us to accept the formula as it stands and get over the difficulty by deciding that our Societies shall not *be* Women Citizens' Associations (under some other name) but shall only *form* them. But WHY? I can find no ghost of a reason put forward in all Miss Rathbone's article!

Where Women Citizens' Associations already exist under other auspices, by all means let them continue so. Some of us (I among them) have allowed ourselves to be obsessed by these comparatively rare cases, and it is time we freed ourselves from our obsession. Where these Associations do not exist and where our Societies are to get the work done, why should they try to get other people to do it instead of doing it themselves? If the Women Citizens' movement is so important—as I believe it is—and if our Societies are peculiarly fitted by their constitution and experience to foster it—as I believe they are—why erect complicated and wholly superfluous machinery which will break down of its own weight when so much simpler a course is open to us? If Miss Rathbone would simplify the Agenda for us, let her cut clean away all this unnecessary tackle and the thing is done! No one can love cumbersome machinery merely for its own sake!

The White Knight, it will be remembered,

> "was thinking of a plan
> To dye one's whiskers green,
> And always wear so large a fan
> That they should not be seen—"

And our W.C.A. plan as it appears on the agenda seems to me to have been conceived in much the same spirit. Why *should* we restrict our stated "objects" to half the work we wish to do and camouflage the rest under the make-believe of a separate organisation?

I hope at the Council we shall make our "objects"

> "*not only* a real equality of liberties, status and opportunities between men and women, *but also* freedom of opportunity for women to make their full contribution to the affairs of the nation."

Then we shall have scope for the work Miss Rathbone and all of us want

POLICIES FOR BUSINESS WOMEN. British Equitable Assn. Co., 1-3, Queen St. Place, E.C.

the Union to do, instead of exposing ourselves to be hampered at every turn by narrowing rulings, and being driven to the *imperium in imperio* of the "autonomous" Citizens' Associations. Future executives (or chairmen) may not put the same interpretation on the equality formula as is given to it—rather unconvincingly, surely—by Miss Rathbone in her article. (Could anyone who did not want to do so *very* badly, declare that it covers the "endowment of motherhood" while excluding all other forms of "child welfare"?)

If any are frightened at the scope of the "objects" proposed, let them remember Miss Rathbone's reassuring explanation that "it is not suggested that the Union should attempt at once to work for the whole of the reforms necessary to the full accomplishment of its new aim," but that it should from year to year "determine which of the reforms necessary to its purpose have come within the sphere of its practical politics, and should concentrate its work upon these." Here is the true check—free from the dead hand—upon a too greatly diffused activity.

GEO. G. ARMSTRONG.

WOMEN CITIZENS' ASSOCIATIONS.

MADAM,—The National Union of Women Workers have arranged jointly with 49 of the Societies affiliated with the Union to carry on an active campaign with regard to the use and responsibility of the Women's Vote. They propose to form local Women Citizens' Associations on non-party, non-sectarian and democratic lines, which will meet to interchange views on public questions and to study legislative proposals. Interest in the local aspects of Citizenship will be encouraged and an effort made to bring the experience of women more adequately to bear upon local administration.

A Central Committee in London has been formed to assist local Associations with literature, information, speakers on special subjects, and in other ways, but the local Citizens' Associations themselves will be entirely independent in their management.

It is hoped through these Associations to co-ordinate the educative work of the various Societies among their members and to carry on such work with all possible economy and efficiency throughout the country.

At this critical moment a well-organised effort of the kind is a real need and should prove of great value. The Central Committee believe that many public-spirited men and women will be willing to assist towards the development of the work. Money is required at once for the office accommodation of the Central Committee, clerical assistance, the printing of leaflets and other expenses. While the Societies will themselves contribute, the urgency of the work will make an immediate demand that cannot be met from the income of the Societies themselves.

Donations will be received at the N.U.W.W. Office, Parliament Mansions, Westminster, S.W.1, addressed to the Secretary, and will be duly acknowledged

The Committee confidently expects a generous response to this appeal.

MAY OGILVIE GORDON,
Chairman, Central Committee of the Women Citizens' Associations.

"FAWCETT SCHOLARSHIPS."

MADAM,—Now that the first great victory for the franchise has been won, it is essential that women should equip themselves by every means within their power for the new duties which they will have to exercise. Here the training given by a University education holds a foremost place.

Hitherto, women have lacked the provision for advanced work and research which men have enjoyed for centuries, and consequently they have, as yet, had a limited opportunity for the development of their highest intellectual faculties. Interest, energy and money will now be, to a considerable extent, set free from direct suffrage propaganda for other activities concerning the advancement of women. By using a part of this force to increase the facilities for University training, men and women who have fought long and sacrificed much to gain the suffrage will, in a very real sense, be carrying on the good work of which parliamentary enfranchisement is the first step.

Eight years ago, Miss Philippa Fawcett, herself a former student, promised to give £100 to Bedford College when the suffrage was won. Now that this gift can be claimed, it has been suggested that it should form the nucleus of a fund to commemorate the victory. The Council of Bedford College, we are informed, have decided to create an endowment for scholarships, to be named "Fawcett Scholarships," so that the work of Mrs. Fawcett for women may have a permanent memorial in the University of London and be gratefully remembered by generations of future students. Bedford College is the oldest of the women's University Colleges and Mrs. Fawcett has been for many years a Governor of it. The work of the College is at present seriously hampered by the lack both of ordinary scholarships and of funds for the encouragement of advanced work and research. £2,000 invested in National War Bonds will provide a scholarship of £100 a year. It is hoped that at least £50,000 may be raised.

We feel that from every point of view this is an appeal which we can most warmly endorse, and that it will commend itself to all who realise the importance of the share in the national life which will fall to women in the near future.

We therefore beg you to subscribe generously to the "Fawcett Scholarship Fund."

CONSUELO MARLBOROUGH (Hon. Treasurer, Building and Endowment Fund).
E. LONDONDERRY.
MAUD SELBORNE.
FRANCES BALFOUR.
ELEANOR CECIL.
LETTICE FISHER.

Cheques should be drawn to the order of G. T. Pilcher, Esq., Hon. Treasurer, Bedford College, Regent's Park, N.W.1.

BUSINESS *VERSUS* THE TEACHING PROFESSION.

MADAM,—May I venture to answer the letter in last week's issue of THE COMMON CAUSE from an "Elementary School Teacher"? She points out the financial disadvantages of the position of women teachers as compared with those of the business girl. I add one more. The young trained teacher leaves college full of ideals, and longing to continue her studies. Her enthusiasm is, however, only too often damped, as commencing salaries, especially in war time, are often barely enough for necessities—with no margin for amusement or education. In spite of this I feel sorry to hear any teacher urge parents not to allow their girls to enter the teaching profession. Surely the remedy is not to create a shortage of teachers but rather to bend all energies to the reform of salary scales. We want more people to interest themselves in our profession—people who are eager to make it what it ought to be, *i.e.*, one of the greatest forces for social reconstruction.

A VERY YOUNG TEACHER.

TEACHERS' SALARIES.

MADAM,—New salary scales have been published by eight counties, twenty-five boroughs and various endowed and other schools. We summarise forty scales for women graduates as follows:—

MINIMUM.	MAXIMUM.
£120 or less in 21 scales.	£200 or less in 30 scales.
£125 to £140 in 13 scales.	£210 to £250 in 9 scales.
£150 in 6 scales.	£270 in 1 scale.

In some cases provision is made for posts of special responsibility, but in six scales only do such posts carry a salary of over £200, while in many cases no such posts are provided for.

Comparing these scales with those they replace, we find that, generally speaking, Education Committees consider an increase of £20 as sufficient, and yet this means that women teachers will, both now and after the war, receive salaries of less purchasing power than those they enjoyed in 1914.

At the same time, the careers open to university women have increased in number, in variety, in attractiveness, and in rates of remuneration, so that the problem of recruiting secondary school mistresses already causes us grave anxiety, and those who have the choice of candidates cannot fail to remark the decline in the personality and intellectual attainment as well as in the number of applicants. This change in the type of candidate is due to the more stimulating environment, combined with the higher rate of remuneration offered by other careers such as medicine and surgery, the organisation of hospitals, of clubs, of welfare work in factories, of the after-care of children, of charitable funds and of women's professional and political associations, besides literary research and secretarial work of all kinds. While these more attractive careers are absorbing a large number of women who would formerly have become teachers, the demand for women graduates in the teaching profession has enormously increased and will continue to do so. More secondary schools are already required all over the country, and when the new Education Act leads parents to prefer full time education up to the age of sixteen rather than part time up to eighteen, the number required will be still greater. The reduction in the size of classes in elementary schools and the inauguration of continuation schools will mean a greater demand for teachers and a consequent increase in the number of lecturers in the training colleges, while the addition through the encouragement given by Advanced Courses to the number of university students will lead to more university appointments for women. At the same time, the Empire has been drawn together by the war and we are already asked to persuade our suitably qualified women to become teachers in our great dominions and dependencies.

The problem of the supply of secondary teachers is therefore urgent, and since the teaching profession, though rich in human interest, is at once much more exacting than the actual hours of work would imply and more isolated socially than other professions, it must offer remuneration at least as high in order to attract recruits.

Freshness, vitality and breadth of interest cannot be maintained on salaries such as the new scales set forth, and we desire to re-assert our conviction that the salary scale published by our Association is the least that will secure the future of our secondary schools. That scale is £150 rising by £10 per annum to £300, with provision for posts of special responsibility to a considerably higher maximum.

RETA OLDHAM,
President, Association of Head Mistresses.
GRACE FANNER,
Chairman, Salaries Sub-Committee.

EQUAL JUSTICE.

MADAM,—In THE COMMON CAUSE of February 8th, the case of the acquittal for wife murder by the soldier Henry Canham is contrasted with the sentence passed on Julia Decies for wounding her betrayer. An even more striking contrast comes from Canada.

A year or so ago in Wetaskiwin, a small town in Alberta, a woman was sentenced to be hanged because she had killed her husband's mistress, whom she had been forced to receive in her own home; almost at the same time in another town in Alberta, Cranbrook, a mechanic who shot his wife's paramour was discharged. The Judge remarked that he hoped the death of the man would warn others and protect the sanctity of Canadian homes.

There is no more urgent work before women voters than the task of getting rid of unequal moral legislation between the sexes. So long as the law implies that the "sin which is sinned by two and two" need only be paid for by one, so long shall we have this warped mental attitude towards immorality on the part of men, and this utter lack of justice, and logic. Equality of legislation would be an immense protection to our boys; whereas the existing state of affairs practically constitutes a free invitation to them to be as immoral as they please, an invitation which is strengthened by the provision of prophylactics, and which received its sign and seal in the iniquitous C.D. Acts.

CAROL RING.

PUBLIC OPINION ON WOMEN'S WORK.

MADAM,—An attempt is being made by the Women's Section of the Imperial War Museum to form a retrospective collection of press cuttings which should mirror the fluctuation of public opinion with regard to women's war-work. From May 1st, 1915, to the present day the collection is sufficiently complete, but if any of your readers happen to have preserved press cuttings on women's work during the first nine months of the war, I should be glad if they would kindly communicate with me.—Yours truly,

AGNES ETHEL CONWAY.
(Hon. Secretary, Women's Work Sub-Committee, Imperial War Museum, 9, Queen Anne's Gate, Westminster, S.W.1.)

"THE GIRL ON THE WAY."

MADAM,—May I suggest that Miss Ferguson in her rather pessimistic article of last week's issue is taking a merely surface view of things? Has she enquired among a fair proportion of girl clerks how large a share of interest their club claims? The aimlessness she deplores is often a veneer the girl assumes to hide the deeper things she cares about from prying eyes. May I give an instance from one office with a cause, which I think is fairly typical of others of the kind? In this office, which is personally known to me, seven girl clerks are employed. Four of them take a keen interest in their respective clubs, one of these and another of the girls do social work of some value, a sixth is, for one so young and with few opportunities, pretty well-read. I should like to refer in greater detail to the club-girls; one is, doubtless owing to her club, developing a love of art, one is a lover of poetry, another deeply religious.

Of the seven, only one is the rather colourless creature portrayed in "The Girl on the Way," and even this may perhaps be accounted for by a backwardness of development. That there is much to be done to introduce colour into the lives of most workers I do not deny, but if Miss Fergusson would consider the lives of such girls with what they were even ten years ago, I think she will realise that some improvement has been made. For this, I wonder if we realise how much we have to thank Girls' Clubs?

WORKER.

Review.

MAIN CURRENTS OF EUROPEAN HISTORY, 1815-1915. By F. J. C. Hearnshaw, M.A., LL.D. (Macmillan & Co. Ltd.)

The substance of this volume was first used by Mr. Hearnshaw for a course of lectures delivered to teachers in 1916, and in the introduction the author gives us his views on the teaching of history in our schools, of which he has little to say that is favourable. His lectures concern both the extent and the character of this teaching—the fact that history was an optional and unpopular subject in elementary schools until 1900, and the way in which its study has almost always stopped short at 1815, "the very date from which most of the problems of modern international politics have had their origin. . . . . The net result has been that boys and girls leave school in lamentable ignorance of just those departments of history which, from the point of view of citizenship, it is the most necessary they should know."

There is enough wild and inaccurate talk and writing about the problems with which our generation is faced to justify Mr. Hearnshaw's severity. Too many of our prophets and theorists lose sight of the fact that the tragedy of 1914 differs from other outbreaks of European War more in the extent than in the nature of the events and passions from which it sprung, and that our ancestors also knew what it was to long for "a just and permanent peace."

There is nothing to be gained by passing over the history of the 19th century with vague plaints about the sinfulness of secret diplomacy and the evil significance of that much abused phrase "the balance of Power" (defined by Vattel in *Le Droit des Gens*, 1758, as "such a disposition of affairs that no power can ever find itself in a position to enjoy undisputed predominance and to impose the law on others"). To those who are willing, in considering plans for the reconstruction of our society after the war, to profit by the efforts and failures of the past, these studies of an eventful century can be recommended. Those who are interested in projects for the establishment of a League of Nations, as are most of us at present, will find the third and fourth lectures: "The Commonwealth of Europe" and "The Era of the Congresses," particularly instructive.

In the main the author has resisted the temptation of the historian to make facts fit themselves to his theories, but there is a suggestion of the reverse process in the statement (contained in the introduction) that it was "to prevent the Low Countries from falling into the hands of a potentially hostile great power" that Queen Elizabeth fought Philip II. of Spain. The countries so described, with the exception of the northern provinces, which had successfully revolted, were already in Philip's possession, having come to him as part of the domains of the House of Burgundy, through the marriage of his grandfather with the heiress of the last Duke, Charles the Bold.

E. K.-W.

OUR THIRD "COMMON CAUSE" HUT.

Donations for our Hut for members of the W.A.A.C. stationed on Salisbury Plain are coming in slowly but steadily.

To help the Hut Mrs. Edmund Garrett and some friends have been making some very dainty bead necklaces of original colouring and design. These are on sale from 3s. upwards in the Enquiry Room of the National Union Offices, and will also be sold at the Council Meeting. The beads are hand-made and enamelled by a new and ingenious process.

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Further donations should be sent to The Editor, THE COMMON CAUSE, Evelyn House, 62, Oxford Street, W. 1.

National Memorial

TO

DR. ELSIE INGLIS

In response to a widely-expressed wish it has been decided to open a fund to commemorate the work of the late Dr. Elsie Inglis. The following special objects have been selected for this Memorial:—

1. The Dr. Elsie Inglis Memorial Hospital to be established in Serbia after the War by the Scottish Women's Hospitals as a general Hospital and training school for Serbian Nurses and the maintenance during the War of the Elsie Inglis Hospital for Serbs in France.

The last three years of Dr. Inglis' life were spent in untiring service for this heroic Nation, and it was her expressed belief that Serbia has no greater need than that of trained Serbian nurses for her own people.

2. The development and endowment of the Hospice, High Street, Edinburgh, founded by Dr. Inglis, in future to bear her name and to become the **Elsie Inglis Memorial**, a training centre for Women Medical Students in Maternity and Infant Welfare.

The Hospice is the outcome of Dr. Inglis' fifteen years' devoted work for women and children. Its endowment will not only help to meet a great national emergency, but will fulfil plans made by Dr. Inglis herself and ensure her perpetual memory in her well-loved City.

Representatives from the Committees of:

The Scottish Federation of Women Suffrage Societies.

The Scottish Women's Hospitals for Foreign Service.

The Edinburgh Hospital for Women and Children, and the Hospice.

The two Scottish Associations of Medical Women,

with the co-operation of

The Lady Frances Balfour, Mrs. Henry Fawcett, LL.D., and others, have united in a

DR. ELSIE INGLIS MEMORIAL FUND COMMITTEE.

Donations may be ear-marked for either of the above objects, but if not so marked, they will be allotted equally to both.

Cheques crossed "National Bank of Scotland" should be addressed to

Mrs. WALLACE WILLIAMSON, *Hon. Treasurer*,
Dr. Elsie Inglis Memorial Fund,
Room 5, 40, Shandwick Place, Edinburgh.

Miss S. E. S. MAIR, 5, Chester Street, Edinburgh,
Mrs. JAMES T. HUNTER, 16, Glasgow St., Glasgow,
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Notes from Headquarters.

The National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies.

President: MRS. HENRY FAWCETT, LL.D.

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The speakers at the Celebration on March 13th at Queen's Hall will include, besides the Chairman, Mrs. Henry Fawcett, LL.D., the Earl of Lytton, the Rt. Hon. Sir John Simon, the Rt. Hon. A. Henderson, and Miss Maude Royden.

Sir Hubert Parry will conduct the London Symphony Orchestra and a portion of the Bach Choir in a stirring programme, which will include the Léonora Overture No. 3. The choral music, not yet arranged, will be announced later.

Seats for the Celebration are priced from 1 guinea in the Stalls and Grand Circle, to 1s. in the Balcony, with the intermediate positions priced at 10s. 6d., 5s., and 2s. 6d. The entertainment tax has to be added, particulars of which can be seen on the advertisements.

The Final Agenda.

The final Agenda, which will reach Societies on February 22nd, requires a few words of explanation.

It differs from the Preliminary Agenda somewhat in its arrangement. Everything that appeared upon the Preliminary Agenda, however, appears upon the Final Agenda; but in some cases the order of resolutions and amendments has been rearranged for greater clearness.

The first section of the Resolutions deals with those called for by the passage of the Representation of the People Act. These are followed by two general resolutions, re-stating the present objects of the Union. Next comes the widest of the proposed alterations in the constitution of the Union proposed by Edinburgh, which, if carried, would rule out of order the subsequent detailed resolutions upon extensions of objects and of work. This is immediately followed by the resolution on the extension of the objects proposed by the Executive Committee, and the amendments to it proposed by Chinley and Manchester, which embody the main point of difference between the two schemes called A and B. The next section deals with Women Citizens' Associations, the two schemes (called X and Y) being here presented. This is followed by a section defining the programme of the Union, and another describing the administration work which (in general outline) are common to both schemes A and B.

At this point the Agenda Committee consider that the Council will have decided which of the two schemes it proposes in the main to adopt. An urgency resolution will therefore be moved at this point specifically adopting one of the schemes, and the Council will then have the opportunity of taking minor alterations in it, and the consequential changes in rules, in detail. It will, however, be possible to refer this matter to the Executive Committee, or some other body if the Council so desires, as the main decisions which will guide the immediate work will already have been taken. All the consequential changes and other alterations in the schemes are printed not on the Agenda, but with the schemes themselves, and the point at which they will be in order will be as amendments to the Urgency Resolution of the Agenda Committee.

The next section of the Agenda deals with resolutions to be placed on the Programme of the Union, and this is followed by (1) other changes in rules not consequential on any schemes of new work; (2) a section on women at the Peace Conference after the war; and (3) a small section of miscellaneous resolutions.

Delegates are urged to study the Agenda carefully, and to come prepared to stay during the three days of the Council.

The most important decision to be taken is that relating to the future work and objects of the Union, the proposals for the formation of Women Citizens' Associations being closely allied to it. In view of the complexity of the agenda, and the probability that amendments will be proposed on the spot, Societies are advised to give their representatives a general guidance as to the direction in which they wish the Union to develop rather than detailed instructions as to how to vote on each resolution or amendment.

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Literature Department.

The Literature Committee issues this week a new leaflet, "Six Million Women Can Vote," on the qualifications of women parliamentary electors, and how they are to get on the Register. It is in simple language, and is intended for wide distribution. Price 1s. 6d. per 100. (Postage 2½d.) Amendments in the House of Lords have delayed the reprint of Miss Macmillan's article "And shall I have a Parliamentary Vote?" from THE COMMON CAUSE of February 1st, but this is undergoing revision, and will appear shortly. The proprietors of *Punch* have kindly given the National Union permission to reproduce the cartoon "At last," which appeared in *Punch* of January 23rd, in post card form. Cards are now on sale at 2d. each. The department is stocking the leaflet published by the Women's Local Government Society, which gives details of Local Government franchises for women. Price 1s. 9d. per 100. (Postage 2½d.)

N.U.W.S.S. Scottish Women's Hospitals.

LONDON UNITS.

The work of the Scottish Women's Hospitals received Royal recognition on Monday, February 18th, when their Majesties the King and Queen inspected the "Elsie Inglis Unit" which is to start for the Eastern Front within the next week. The Unit left the London Office, 66, Victoria Street, shortly after 11 a.m., and marched by way of Buckingham Gate to the Palace. Dr. Annette Benson, as C.M.O., and Miss Hedges, as Transport Officer, led the way, and were followed by the hospital "Greys" in double file, while the Motor Transport "Buffs" brought up the rear.

As the line swung round through the Palace gates, a military band passed, marching in the opposite direction, and it was therefore to martial strains that the Unit entered the grounds. After a short interval, during which the Unit took up its position, the officials of the London Committee and Dr. Benson entered the Palace, and were presented to their Majesties. The doors were then opened once more, and as the King and Queen came down the steps, accompanied by Dr. Benson, the Unit stood smartly to attention. All the officers were presented in turn by their C.M.O., the Queen showing a special interest in Dr. Ward's account of Dr. Inglis's last days, while the King asked several questions about the retreats of the Scottish Women in Serbia and Roumania of those members of the Unit who had already served in previous campaigns.

The inspection over, His Majesty made a brief speech, in which he complimented the Unit on the courage they displayed in taking up work with Allied nations, in the time of stress and danger, and concluded his remarks by wishing the Unit "a safe voyage, good luck in your work, and a speedy return."

The march back was made by way of Buckingham Palace Road and Victoria Street, and caused considerable interest among the general public. In the afternoon, Mrs. Kinnell was At Home to the General and Executive Committees of the London Units, when the Hon. Sir Arthur Stanley was present to wish the "Elsie Inglis Unit" success in all its endeavours, Dr. Benson replying on behalf of the Unit.

The advance party leaves for the Front on Wednesday, February 20th, and other detachments will follow later.

[*Donations are urgently needed for the maintenance of the Unit and should be sent to the Rt. Hon. Viscountess Cowdray, or the Hon. Mrs. E. M. Graves, Hon. Treasurers, London Units of the Scottish Women's Hospitals, 66, Victoria Street, S.W.1.*]

LIST OF DONATIONS TO THE SCOTTISH WOMEN'S HOSPITALS.

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Subscriptions are still urgently needed, much new work having been undertaken, and should be sent to Mrs. Laurie, Hon. Treasurer, S.W.H. Red House, Greenock. Cheques to be crossed "Royal Bank of Scotland."

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*Per Miss Etta Shankland, Organiser, S. W. H. Greenock: Proceeds of "Christmas Show and War Relics Exhibition," Greenock—£150 4s. less expenses £16 17s. 5d.—"Greenock Christmas No. I." Bed, Royaumont (£50); "Greenock Christmas No. II." bed, Royaumont (Elsie Inglis' Hospital, Greenock Ward) (£50); "Chrysanthemum Day—Greenock" Ambulance, Royaumont (£20); (Balance of £13 6s. 7d. held over for Gramophone inscribed: "Greenock Christmas Gift to Greenock Ward, Christmas, 1917"); 42nd to 45th Penny Weekly Collection in Greenock, further for Ambulance for Serbians (£38 4s. 5d.) Messrs. Hally & Co., Sale of Waste Paper Tubes for "Halley & Co. Auchterarder" Bed (Elsie Inglis' Hospital) (£6 11s. 2d.); *Firm and Workers, Messrs. Wm. Hamilton & Co., Port Glasgow, for upkeep of "Glen Shipbuilding Yard" Bed (New Hospital, Greenock Ward) (£6 3s.); Glen Yard Ironworkers' Patriotic Fund, per A. Quinn, Esq., Serbian Hospital (£3 3s.); Per Miss E. H. Brown, Greenock:—Miss Brown, Gowanbank, Dunoon, £12 10s.; Rev. George McNeill, St. Anne's Bay, Jamaica, B.W.I., £12 10s.—(£25) (to continue "Annie B. McNeill" Bed, Villers-Cotterets); Kilmarnock Collections per Mrs. Robertson, for "Kilmarnock Children's Cot" Bed (Serbian Hospitals); Kilmarnock Academy, per Dr. Clark (£15 17s. 1½d.), Loanhead School, per the Headmaster (£14 10s. 6d.), Hamilton School, per the Headmaster (£11 1s.), Bentinck School, per the Headmaster (£6 7s. 6d.), Grammar School, per the Headmaster (£3 7s. 10½d.),			

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It is also of interest at the present time to read the following extract from a letter sent by a member of our Territorial Forces, who writes: "My parents and myself thought it would soon be all over with me. However, thank God, after proceeding and persevering with your treatment, I was totally cured. A period of nine years has now elapsed since giving up your treatment, and I am now a member of the Territorial Forces. I think this speaks for itself, and therefore requires no further comment."

Too much emphasis cannot be laid on the fact that the results are lasting, for it is in this essential feature that the Alabone Treatment differs from the so-called cures which have been introduced with a flourish of trumpets from time to time. It has undergone the test of forty years, and has emerged triumphant.

To refer fully to the evidence furnished by leading journals in support of the Alabone Treatment would occupy too much of our space; we, therefore, give brief extracts only from the following journal. "Truth," in a long article describing the life-work of Dr. Alabone, makes the following comment:—

> "It is quite certain that he accomplished a large number of remarkable cures, succeeding again and again in cases which had been pronounced hopeless by the best professional authorities. . . . I myself have sent many patients to him. . . . Though this advice has been given so often, year after year, no one has ever complained subsequently of the results of having followed it."

When one finds a periodical like "Truth," which is a bitter enemy of all frauds and shams, devoting a whole page to the eulogy of Dr. Alabone, it is clear that his methods were genuinely successful.

Readers desiring further particulars regarding this successful treatment for the cure of Consumption are recommended to procure a copy of Dr. Alabone's important book, "The Cure of Consumption, Asthma, Bronchitis, and other Diseases of the Chest," illustrated by numerous cases pronounced "incurable" by the most eminent physicians, now in its 40th edition, 178th thousand, which can be obtained for 2s. 6d. post free, from the Secretary, The Dr. E. W. Alabone Treatment, Lynton House, 12, Highbury Quadrant, London, N.5, who will gladly answer any inquiry upon this vital subject.—Advt.

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*Hull W.S.S., per Miss Hyde, Hon. Sec.	2	10	2
*Staff and Pupils, Finnart School, per Wm. B. Ingram, Esq., Headmaster, per Miss Etta Shankland, for upkeep of School bed, Corsica	1	14	0
*Sir R. Rowand Anderson (monthly don.)	3	0	0
*Miss Buchanan, per Mrs. Wood, Hon. Treas. Kilmacolm W.S.S.: For Elsie Inglis Memorial (£2 10s.), For Elsie Inglis Hospital (£2 10s.)	5	0	0
*Findlay B. Anderson, Esq.	20	0	0
Anonymous	2	0	0
"E. R."	2	0	0
Miss J. Hepburn		10	6
Women of Abbotshall Mothers' Meeting, per Mrs. Hunter		10	0
Miss K. Black		10	0
Proceeds of Jumble Sale, Exhibition, and Concert, per Mrs. Helen J. Crawford: For "The Prestwick" bed, Corsica (£50), General Funds in Corsican Hospital (£30)	80	0	0
Miss McNab, for "Belgrave" bed, Salonica	1	0	0
Miss Kennedy, for "Buckingham Terrace" bed, Salonica	4	0	0
*Per Miss E. Rachel Jamieson, Organiser S.W.H.: *Staff and Employees Messrs. Redpath Brown, per John Baird, Esq., Sec. (£80), *Employees Scottish Motor Traction Co. (£4 8s. 6d.), *National Union of Railwaymen (Hawick Branch), per W. Rutherford, Esq. (£1 16s. 9d.), Misses Alice and Helen Bluchader (£1)	87	5	3
*Mrs. Patterson, Hon. Treas. Farnham and District W.S.S. (10s.), *Miss M. Brady (two quarterly dons.) (Serbia) (13s.)	1	3	0
*Proceeds from Sale of Work, Port-Glasgow: "Messrs. Dunlop, Bremner & Co. Ltd., Munition Girs'" bed, Villers-Cotterets (£50), "Kingston Yard Munition Girls'" bed, Royaumont (£50), "Glen Yard Munition Girls'" bed, Salonica (£50), "Messrs. Russell & Co., Munition Girls'" bed, Salonica (£50), "Messrs. Ferguson Bros., Munition Girls'" bed, Royaumont (£50), "Port-Glasgow W.S.S." bed, Salonica (£50), "Elsie Inglis Memorial Fund" (£115), per Mrs. W. S. Anderson	415	0	0
*Wm. Garden, Esq.	25	0	0
Estate of the late "R. B. M."	10	0	0
*Miss M. Smith	2	2	0
Some Dunfermline High School Teachers, per Miss M. Y. Nicoll	2	5	6
*Mrs. C. B. Connell, to continue "Charles Connell" bed, Royaumont (£50), General Funds (£50)	100	0	0
*Per Miss Isabel Basnett, Organiser S.W.H.: National Ordnance Factory, Leeds, grant from Benevolent Fund of collection in works after addresses (£9), Messrs. Albrecht's Ltd. (£5 5s.)	14	5	0
Mrs. Prentice, per Mrs. Laurie	5	0	0
Miss Lilias H. Ranken	30	0	6
*Per Miss Annie Cook, Sec. Active Service Fund, London: Whitby W.S.S. (£4 12s. 11d.), Mrs. Margoliouth (£1 10s.), Newquay W.S.S., three Members (10s.), Miss Marjorie Bunbury (5s.)	5	17	1
Mrs. Jackson, per Mrs. Wood, Hon. Treas. Kilmacolm W.S.S.	10	0	0
*Anonymous		10	0
*Miss I. C. B. Young, per Messrs. L. & B. McLaren	2	0	0
*Members of Prinlaws Parish Church Women's Guild, per Miss Margaret A. McLeod	5	0	0
*Mr. and Mrs. R. Winkler and Miss Winkler	20	0	0
*Miss Millar	1	0	0
*Alex. Cupples, Esq.	2	0	0
Dr. and Mrs. McNichol's lecture in Buckhaven Baptist Church Women's Meeting, per Mrs. D. M. Simpson	2	14	0
Miss Aitken	1	1	0
Miss G. Bradford	2	2	0
*Polam Hall School, Darlington, per Miss O. B. Baynes	5	5	0
*Kirk Session, South Leith Parish Church, per James W. Thorburn, Esq.: Women's Hospitals in Serbia (£4), Serbia (£4)	8	0	0
*Per Miss Isabelle Kerr, Local Hon. Sec. S.W.H., Greenock: 19th instal. from Waste-paper and Waste Material Scheme in Greenock (total received to date, £1,000—Feb., 1917., to Feb., 1918)	100	0	0
*Per Miss E. Rachel Jamieson, Organiser S.W.H.: *Workmen's Scheme*: *Employees Messrs. McVitie & Price Ltd. (£20), *Women Clerks, Acct.'s Pay Office, G.P.O., per Miss Sutherland (£2 5s.), *Leith Domestic Servants' Assoc., per Mrs. Nicholson, Hon. Sec. (£2 1s. 1d.); Lantern lectures, Miss Holme, per Miss Cooke (£28 9s.), Y.W.C.A., Morningside Branch, per Miss M. Kemp (£21 1s.), Perth lantern lecture, Miss Holme, per Miss Cooke (£4)	77	16	1
*A weekly collection from Masters and Boys of Glasgow Academy, per E. Temple, Esq., Headmaster	3	7	6
*Collected by Miss E. Rachel Jamieson, Organiser S.W.H., from members of the W.A.A.C. for "Buckingham Terrace" bed, Salonica: Miss H. S. Turner (5s.), Miss B. A. Christie (2s. 6d.), Miss J. Gillies (2s.), Miss E. Brand (4s.)		13	0
Lady Grant, for musical instruments for Salonica (Girton and Newnham Unit)	2	0	0
*"A Widow's Mite"		10	0
*Clerks in the Claims and Record Office, Kew, per Miss Janet Smith, to continue "Claims and Record Office, Kew," bed, Villers-Cotterets	6	16	0
Chinese Stamps, per Mrs. Laurie, Hon. Treas.: Mrs. Reed (5s.), Miss M. Powell (5s.)		10	0
*Nairn W.S.S., per Mrs. Ellis, Hon. Treas. (Dec. and Jan. dons.)	20	0	1
*Part proceeds of Concert, per Miss Coullie, to continue "Haddington W.S.S." bed, Royaumont	7	0	0
*Gateshead W.S.S., per Mrs. J. T. Dunn, Hon. Sec. (£1 19s. 4d.), Private dons. (£1 7s.)	3	6	4
*Miss Jessie G. Goodrich		5	0
*Per Miss Isabel Basnett, Organiser S.W.H.: Collection taken after address at Messrs. Anthems, from Employees (£2 17s. 2d.), Collection taken in the works of Messrs. Fairbairn (£1 4s. 3d.)	3	11	5
	£287,328	11	10

* Denotes further donations.

FURTHER LIST OF BEDS NAMED.

Name of Bed.	*Donor.*
"Greenock Christmas No. I." (Royaumont, 1 year)	Per Miss Etta Shankland, Organiser S.W.H.
"Greenock Christmas No. II." (Elsie Inglis Hospital, Greenock Ward, 1 year)	Per Miss Etta Shankland, Organiser S.W.H.
"Hally & Co., Auchterarder" (Elsie Inglis' Hospital, Greenock Ward, 1 month)	Per Miss Etta Shankland, Organiser S.W.H.
"Annie B. McNeill" (Villers-Cotterets, further 6 months)	Per Miss Etta Shankland, Organiser S.W.H.
"Kilmarnock Children's Cot" (Serbian Hospitals, 1 year)	Per Miss Etta Shankland, Organiser S.W.H., per Mrs. Robertson.
"Prestwick" (Corsica, 1 year)	Per Mrs. Helen J. Crawford, Prestwick.
"Port-Glasgow W.S.S." (Salonica, further 1 year)	Per Mrs. Anderson, Alderwood, Port-Glasgow.
"Messrs. Dunlop, Bremner & Co. Ltd., Port-Glasgow, Munition Girls" (Villers-Cotterets, 1 year)	Per Mrs. Anderson, Alderwood, Port-Glasgow.
"Kingston Yard, Port-Glasgow, Munition Girls" (Royaumont, 1 year)	Per Mrs. Anderson, Alderwood, Port-Glasgow.
"Glen Yard, Port-Glasgow, Munition Girls" (Salonica, 1 year)	Per Mrs. Anderson, Alderwood, Port-Glasgow.
"Messrs. Russell & Co., Dockyard, Port-Glasgow, Munition Girls" (Salonica, 1 year)	Per Mrs. Anderson, Alderwood, Port-Glasgow.
"Messrs. Ferguson Bros., Port-Glasgow, Munition Girls" (Royaumont, 1 year)	Per Mrs. Anderson, Alderwood, Port-Glasgow.

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Forthcoming Meetings (N.U.W.S.S.)

FEBRUARY 24.

Birmingham—East Birmingham Labour Church—George Lansbury—Chair: Mrs. Ring. 7 p.m.

FEBRUARY 25.

Birmingham—Ellen Street—Mrs. Ring. 3.15 p.m.
Kennington—Wheatsheaf Mission Hall, South Lambeth Road, S.W.—Speaker: Mrs. Watson—subject: "Women's New Opportunities." 3 p.m.

FEBRUARY 26.

Scarborough—The Committee "At Home"—Matthew's Boarding House—To Welcome the Extension of the Franchise to Women—Annual Meeting—Music, dramatic sketch, refreshments. 7.30 p.m.

FEBRUARY 27.

Rugby—New Schools—"The Women's Vote and Moral Laws"—Mrs. Ring. 8 p.m.
Scarborough—Grand Hotel—*Conversazione*, in aid of the Scarborough bed, S.W. Hospitals—Lantern Lecture—Speaker: Mrs. Shaw McLaren—Serbian Folk Songs, in costume, Miss Vivien Edwards. 8 p.m.

FEBRUARY 28.

Chinley—The Café—Meeting of the Council for Women's Citizenship—Speaker: Mrs. Cox—subject: "The Work of the Manchester Women's Citizens' Association"—Chair: Mrs. Thoday. 7.30 p.m.
Chapel-en-le-Frith—Victoria Café—Meeting on "What Women can do with the Vote"—Chair: Mrs. Bennett—Speaker: Mrs. Cox. 3 p.m.

MARCH 4.

Kennington—Women's Unionist Association, 295, Kennington Road, S.E.—Speaker: Miss Rosamond Smith—Subject: "Women's New Opportunities." 3 p.m.

Coming Events.

FEBRUARY 22nd.—At the Women's Institute, 92, Victoria Street, S.W.—An address will be given by Miss Smee, U.D.C., on "The Work of a Public Health Committee"—Discussion to follow—All members and friends are cordially invited to attend. 3 p.m.

FEBRUARY 24th.—Browning Hall, York Street, Walworth, S.E.—Thanksgiving Meeting—Chair: The Right Hon. George Barnes, M.P. Speaker: Mrs. Henry Fawcett, LL.D. 3.30 p.m.

FEBRUARY 25th.—Nurses' Institute, 12, Buckingham Street, Strand—Preparations for Conference, June, 1918. (Please note change of address.) 4.30 p.m.

MARCH 1st.—Caxton Hall—The Association for Moral and Social Hygiene, Public Protest Meeting against facilities for immorality provided for troops in France—Speakers: The Rev. Dr. Orchard, Miss Maude Royden, &c., &c. (See advert., opposite.) 5 p.m.

Reports.

Manchester and District Federation.

Under the auspices of the Clitheroe Branch of the N.U., a Conference was held on January 22nd last. Representatives were present from the Co-operative Women's Guild (3 Branches), Women's Labour League and the Colne Progressive Congregational Church. Mrs. Thoday addressed the meeting on the formation of a Women's Citizen Association. She outlined in a very lucid manner the possibilities of future work; given the help of the woman voter, several domestic reforms could be accomplished.

An interesting discussion followed. The question of the State Endowment of Motherhood was regarded by those present—mostly wage-earners—as of vital importance.

It was decided that a Women's Citizen Organisation should be formed for the new division of Nelson. Three dozen COMMON CAUSES were sold.

ACCRINGTON W.S.S.—On Tuesday, January 29th, a conference was held in the Accrington Town Hall (Council Chamber), which was kindly lent by the Mayor of the town. The audience included delegates from the Co-operative Women's Guild (4 Branches), British Women's Association, and the Workers' War Emergency Committee of the Parliamentary Division. Mrs. Slack, a member of the Local Pensions Committee, presided. In the course of the address by Mrs. Thoday, the power of the new woman voter was greatly emphasised; while she urged upon those present, the need for a national as well as a local vision, as she thought that the formation of a Women Citizen Organisation which would work for reforms in the home would tend to cultivate the local vision. A Citizen Association was formed for the constituency and 36 copies of THE COMMON CAUSE were sold.

CHINLEY.—A meeting of representative women was held at the Café, on Thursday, February 7th, Mrs. Thoday in the chair, to discuss "What women can do with the Vote." Mrs. Annot Robinson gave a most interesting address and a useful discussion followed. It was decided to hold a further meeting on February 28th, to hear Mrs. Cox of the Manchester Women's Citizens Association describe what has been already accomplished by that Organisation. It was agreed not to form a Women Citizens Association till after the Council of the N.U.W.S.S. as those present desired to affiliate to a Political Headquarters in order to take combined action.

CHAPEL-EN-LE-FRITH.—A small meeting held at the Victoria Café on Saturday, February 9th, to discuss the prospects of a Society for Women Citizenship in Chapel. Chair: Mrs. Thoday; Speaker: Mrs. Annot Robinson. Owing to a storm the attendance was so small that it was decided to pospone action till a further meeting which those present promised to advertise as much as possible.

SEAFORTH AND WATERLOO W.S.S.—A successful Drawing-room Meeting was held on Wednesday, February 13th, at Mrs. Rollos', Waterloo Park. Mrs. Norman Thomas took the Chair, and Mrs. Egerton Stewart Brown addressed a large gathering on "The Vote and how to Use it." Votes of thanks were given by Canon Sykes and Miss L. G. Parker.

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All advertisements should be addressed to The Manager, The Common Cause Publishing Co., Ltd., Evelyn House, 62, Oxford Street, W. 1, and must be received not later than first post Wednesday.

ANNOUNCEMENTS.

A THANKSGIVING for the EXTENSION of the FRANCHISE to WOMEN
will be held in
BROWNING HALL, York St., Walworth, S.E. on Sunday, February 24th, at 3.30 p.m.
Chairman:
Rt. Hon. G. N. BARNES, M.P.
Address by
Mrs. FAWCETT.
THANK-OFFERING to found a Bursary at the Greenhow College for Working Women.

The Church League for Women's Suffrage, Manchester Branch.
Service of Thanksgiving & Dedication, on February 23rd, at 5 p.m. in the Cathedral, Manchester.
Preacher: Rev. Canon Peter Green, M.A.
Holy Communion at Sacred Trinity, Salford, at 7.30 a.m. and at the Cathedral at 9.30 a.m.

LECTURES
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Every Tuesday at 8 p.m. and every Friday at 3.30
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Admission Free.
Syllabus from Secretary, above address.

THE ASSOCIATION FOR MORAL AND SOCIAL HYGIENE.
The Committee desire to thank all who have supported the Association in its protest against facilities for immorality provided for **British Troops in France and elsewhere**, and call attention to the Public Meeting to be held on **Friday, March 1st, 5 p.m., Caxton Hall,** in furtherance of this protest. Particulars from Secretary, 19, Tothill Street, S.W.1.

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BEDFORD COLLEGE FOR WOMEN
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(Continued on page 596.)

Continued from page 595.

HOUSEHOLD HINTS.

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